Marine Engineering Training Institute in Cochin

3821.SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased ro state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for starting a Marine Engineering Training Institute in Cochin: and

(b) if so , the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Battleships Of Indian Navy

3822. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleassed to state :

(a) the year in which the last major battleship joined.the Indian Navy and its name;

(b)the year in which the next major vessel is expected to be ready for the Navy;

(c)the number of existing frigates likely to be withdrawn from active service by the turn of the century;

(d) the details of proposed replacements of battleships/frigates from shipyards in the country and the time schedule in this regard;

(e) whether the Government propose to acquire ships from foreign shipyards to meet the shortaghes;

(f) if so, the details thereof ; and

(g) if not , the alternatives likely to be adopted ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Frigate, INS Gomati, in 1988.

(b) In1995-96, other things being equal.

(c) to (g). The force levels of the Indian Navy are being developed in accordance with a Long Term Perspective Plan and the 5 year Naval Plans, which take into account the geopolitical environment in the region and the proposed role of the Indian Navy therein as well as the availability of funds. The force level requirements of the Indian Navy are met through both acquisitions from abroad and indigenous construction. Further details cannot be disclosed in the interest of national secunty.

[*Translation*]

Schemes for Welfare of Weavers

3823. SHRI MUMTAJ ANSARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES state;

(a) whether the Government have launched any new schemes for the welfare of weavers particularly in Bihar ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of weavers likely to be benefitted there -from ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) During the current yeat two new schemes for the welfare of weavers have been notified viz. scheme for Integrated Handloom village development and scheme for Marin Money for Destitute weavers. Releases to state governments including the state of Bihar would be on the